

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed October 7, 2003. Claims 1-25 are pending and stand rejected. Applicants have amended Claims 3, 16, 23, and 25 and canceled Claim 24. These amendments do not add new matter. Reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1-23 and 25 is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

In The Specification

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection in regard to the specification. Applicants address Claim 16 in the following section and respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Office Action rejects Claims 3 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants have made clarifying amendments to Claims 3 and 16 to correct certain typographical errors. These amendments are not narrowing, nor do the amendments add new matter. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

The Claims are Allowable over *Stefaniak*

The Office Action rejects Claims 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,550,054 to Stefaniak ("Stefaniak").

Claim 23, for example, recites:

A method for modeling a legacy computer system comprising:
identifying incidents of applications of the legacy computer system
that output data;
associating the incidents with an Extensible Markup Language
schema;
defining a control flow graph of the output incidents;
creating a specification to modify the legacy computer system
applications to provide output from a Document Object Model instance as
Extensible Markup Language; and

automatically modifying the legacy computer system applications in accordance with the specification.

Applicants respectfully assert that *Stefaniak* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest various aspects of independent Claim 23.

The Examiner appears to argue that “transforming a terminal-based screen application into an application specification” in *Stefaniak* equates with “automatically modifying the legacy computer system applications in accordance with the specification” as recited, in part, in amended Claim 23. *See* Office Action at 5-6. *Stefaniak* fails to support this interpretation. In contrast, *Stefaniak* discloses a system that describes legacy application screens in terms of a terminal application specification and converts the specification into a UML model. *See* *Stefaniak*, Abstract; *id.* at 1:57-67. *Stefaniak* repeatedly teaches that the output of the system is a representation or model of the terminal-based application – there is no modification of the terminal-based application in *Stefaniak*. *See* *Stefaniak*, Title; *id.* at Abstract; *id.* at 1:15-18; *id.* at 1:28-31. This is further suggested by *Stefaniak*’s continued use of UML, a modeling language, for representing or modeling – opposed to modifying – the terminal-based application.¹ In other words, even if “the terminal-based application” in *Stefaniak* is comparable to “the legacy computer system applications” of Claim 23 (which Applicants do not concede), *Stefaniak* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest “automatically modifying the legacy computer system applications in accordance with the specification” as recited, in part, in amended Claim 23.

For example, the cited portions of *Stefaniak* teach that a terminal-to-XML converter module 20 “converts specifications of legacy screens into a UML compliant model where the legacy application is represented by a UML package, the screens are represented by UML classes and the fields in the screen represented by UML attributes.” *Stefaniak*, 5:11-15 (emphasis added). In another example, *Stefaniak* teaches that “terminal screens are discovered using the transform navigator 19, which produces application and screen specifications 32. The application and screen specifications 32 are then applied to the file

¹ For example, the “Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a language for specifying, visualizing, constructing, and documenting the artifacts of software systems, as well as for business modeling and other non-software systems. The UML represents a collection of the best engineering practices that have proven successful in the modeling of large and complex systems.” UML specification, available at www.omg.com/uml.

warehouse 21, which produces the project file reference model 27. The model 27 is applied to the terminal-to-XML 20, which produces a UML model in a MOF compliant repository.” *Id.*, 5:41-49 (emphasis added); *see generally id.* at 5:58-6:9. In short, *Stefaniak* discloses a system and method for “representing terminal-based applications in the Unified Modeling Language.” *Stefaniak*, Title. Accordingly, *Stefaniak* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest at least “automatically modifying the legacy computer system applications in accordance with the specification” as recited in amended Claim 23.

For at least these reasons, *Lection* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest various limitations of independent Claim 23. Moreover, independent Claim 25 is allowable at least for analogous reasons. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of independent Claims 23 and 25.

The Claims are Allowable over Lection

The Office Action rejects Claims 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,418,446 to Lection et al. (“*Lection*”). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections and the holdings therein for the reasons discussed below.

Claim 7, for example, recites:

A method for outputting data from an application running on a computer system, the data output as Extensible Markup Language, the method comprising:

establishing a relationship of the output data and one or more Extensible Markup Language Document Object Model contexts;

building a Document Object Model instance with the one or more contexts; and

outputting the data from the Document Object Model instance as Extensible Markup Language.

Applicants respectfully assert that *Lection* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest various aspects of independent Claim 7.

First, the Office Action fails to address “one or more Extensible Markup Language Document Object Model contexts” as recited, in part, in Claim 7. The Examiner seems to equate “an output DOM tree” of *Lection* with “a Document Object Model instance” in Claim 7. The Examiner further appears to equate “the source data” of *Lection* with “the output

data" in Claim 7. Yet the Office Action fails to describe any portion of *Lection* that equates with "one or more Extensible Markup Language Document Object Model contexts" in Claim 7.² Accordingly, even if the Examiner's other comparisons are correct (which Applicants do not concede), the Office Action apparently fails to address "establishing a relationship of the output data in one or more Extensible Markup Language Document Object Model contexts" and "building a Document Object Model instance with the one or more contexts" as recited, in part, in Claim 7.

Regardless, Applicants respectfully assert that *Lection* does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least "establishing a relationship of the output data in one or more Extensible Markup Language Document Object Model contexts" or "building a Document Object Model instance with the one or more contexts" as recited, in part, in Claim 7. Instead, *Lection* discloses "a method, system, and computer-readable code for grouping dynamic schema data using Extensible Markup Language notation." *Lection*, 1:6-10. More specifically, *Lection* teaches a method "to gather data that may have had changes to its format, and create a structured representation of this data that flexibly adapts to format variations" and that "a DOM tree created from an XML representation of the source data is used by the present invention as it creates an output DOM tree." *Id.*, Abstract. There is no disclosure, teaching, or suggestion that *Lection* uses "contexts," as recited in Claim 7. Indeed, it does not appear that *Lection* even mentions "contexts" or other similar data components.

For at least these reasons, *Lection* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest various limitations of independent Claim 7. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of independent Claim 7 and all claims depending therefrom.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejects:

- Claims 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Lection*;

² The Office Action might be interpreted as asserting that "one or more records" in *Lection* equates with "one or more contexts" in Claim 7. This would be an improper interpretation because the "one or more records" comprise the "source data" in *Lection*, which the Examiner alleges is the "output data" in Claim 7. Accordingly,

- Claims 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Lection*, in view of *Stefaniak*, further in view of *Shanmugasundaram* et al., “Relational Databases for Querying XML Documents: Limitations and Opportunities” (“*Shanmugasundaram*”); and
- Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Lection* in view of *Stefaniak*, further in view of *Shanmugasundaram*, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,209,124 to *Vermeire* et al (“*Vermeire*”).

Applicants respectfully traverse these objections and all assertions and holdings therein. For at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 7, *Lection* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest various aspects of Claims 10-14 and 15-19. Further, *Stefaniak*, *Vermeire*, and/or *Shanmugasundaram*, whether considered individually or in combination, fail to account for the deficiencies of *Lection*. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of Claims 10-14 and 15-19.

The Office Action further rejects:

- Claims 1-2, 4-6, 20-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Stefaniak*, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,618,852 to *van Elkeren* et al (“*van Elkeren*”);
- Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Stefaniak* in view of *van Elkeren*, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,347,307 to *Sandhu* et al (“*Sandhu*”); and
- Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Stefaniak* in view of *van Elkeren*, further in view of *Shanmugasundaram*.

Applicants respectfully traverse these objections and all assertions and holdings therein. For at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 23, *Stefaniak* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest various aspects of Claims 1-3, 4-6, and 20-22. Further, *van Elkeren*, *Sandhu*, and/or *Shanmugasundaram*, whether considered individually or in combination, fail to account for the deficiencies of *Stefaniak*. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1-3, 4-6, and 20-22.

Lection could not properly teach “establishing a relationship of the output data in one or more Extensible Markup Language Document Object Model contexts,” as recited in Claim 7, using this interpretation.

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET:
50-00-005 (014208.1360)

PATENT APPLICATION
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CONCLUSION

Applicants have now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other apparent reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims.

If the Examiner feels that prosecution of the present Application may be advanced in any way by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at 214-953-6595.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-0765 of Electronic Data Systems Corporation.

Respectfully submitted,

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